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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/678,225	10/06/2003	Kenichi Haruki	000993A	2397
38834	7590	08/19/2005	EXAMINER	
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP 1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036				PERUNGAVOOR, SATHYANARAYA V
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2625				

DATE MAILED: 08/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/678,225	HARUKI ET AL.	
	Examiner Sath V. Perungavoor	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 May 2005.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 17-19 and 24-26 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 17-19 and 24-26 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant(s) Response to Official Action

[1] The response filed on May 31, 2005 has been entered and made of record.

Response to Arguments/Amendments

[2] Applicant's arguments filed on May 31, 2005 have been fully considered, but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection necessitated by the applicant's amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

[3] Claims 17-19 and 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dickinson in view of Thomopoulos et al. (hereinafter "Thomopoulos") [US 5,978,495].

Regarding claim 17, Dickinson discloses an identification-information-acquisition device 5 to be detachably mounted in an extension device 1 which has such a configuration as to be mounted in a container portion of an information processing device 11 (Figure 3), and which includes a carrier unit 2 that moves from a position where said carrier unit is encased in the container portion (retracted or closed position) to a position where said carrier unit is situated outside the container portion (active or open position) (Figure 1;

column 3, line 53-65), said identification-information-acquisition device 5 comprising an identification-information-acquisition unit which receives identification information (column 4, line 52-61), wherein the carrier unit moves said identification-information-acquisition unit from an encased position to a position where the identification information can be entered in said identification-information-acquisition unit when said identification-information-acquisition device is mounted on the carrier unit (column 5, line 5-17).

Dickinson does not explicitly disclose the identification-information-acquisition unit is configured to be detachable from the carrier unit in a state of being capable of receiving the identification information.

However, in the same field of endeavor Thomopoulos discloses an identification-information-acquisition unit 104 configured to be detachable 108 from the carrier unit in a state of being capable of receiving 110 the identification information (Figure 1).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the teachings of Dickinson with Thomopoulos to configure the identification-information-acquisition unit to be detachable, the motivation being the ability to provide networking or long distance connection capability (Column 6 Lines 38-42).

Regarding claim 24, Dickinson discloses an identification-information-acquisition device 5 to be detachably mounted in an information processing device (11, Figure 3) which includes a carrier unit 2 that moves from a position where the carrier unit is encased (retracted or closed position) in the information processing device to a position where the carrier unit is exposed (active or open position) outside the information processing device (Figure 1; column 3, line 53-65), said identification-information-acquisition device 5

comprising an identification-information-acquisition unit which receives identification information (column 4, line 52-61), wherein the carrier unit 2 moves said identification-information-acquisition unit from an encased position to a position where the identification information can be entered in said identification-information-acquisition unit when said identification-information-acquisition device is mounted on the carrier unit (column 5, line 5-17).

Dickinson does not explicitly disclose the identification-information-acquisition unit is configured to be detachable from the carrier unit in a state of being capable of receiving the identification information.

However, in the same field of endeavor Thomopoulos discloses an identification-information-acquisition unit 104 configured to be detachable 108 from the carrier unit in a state of being capable of receiving 110 the identification information (Figure 1).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the teachings of Dickinson with Thomopoulos to configure the identification-information-acquisition unit to be detachable, the motivation being the ability to provide networking or long distance connection capability (Column 6 Lines 38-42).

Regarding claims 18 and 25, Dickinson discloses that said identification-information-acquisition unit includes a biological-information-acquisition unit for acquiring biological (biometric) information (column 3, line 60-65).

Regarding claims 19 and 26, Dickinson discloses that said biological information includes one of fingerprints, retinal patterns, voice, handwritings, and facial features (column 1, line 43-52; column 4, line 52-61).

Conclusion

[4] Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

[5] Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mr. Sath V. Perungavoor whose telephone number is (571) 272-7455. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Bhavesh M. Mehta whose telephone number is (571) 272-7453, can be reached on Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Sath V. Perungavoor
Group Art Unit: 2625
Telephone: (571) 272-7455
Date: August 18, 2005


KANJIBHAI PATEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER